DC COMICS
2 of 7
FOREVER EVIL
THE NEW 52!
FINCH-FRIEND
GEOFF JOHNS
DAVID FINCH
RICHARD FRIEND
DEC 2013
RATED T TEEN
DCCOMICS.COM

DC COMICS
2 of 7
FOREVER EVIL
THE NEW 52!
GEOFF JOHNS
DAVID FINCH
RICHARD FRIEND
DEC 2013
RATED T TEEN
DCCOMICS.COM

WE'VE ALWAYS HAD A RAT PROBLEM DOWN HERE.
THOUGH THEY AREN'T VERY SMART.
SNAPP
NO ONE'S EVER INVENTED A BETTER RATTRAP BECAUSE THERE'S NO NEED TO.
THAT'S WHAT THE SYNDICATE ARE THINKING RIGHT NOW.
THEY THINK THEY'VE CAUGHT ALL THE RATS.

METROPOLIS.
LEXCORP HEADQUARTERS - SUBLEVEL 13.
DAVE E. SMALLEY SAID, "THE SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST IS THE AGELESS LAW OF NATURE; BUT THE FITTEST ARE RARELY THE STRONG. THE FITTEST ARE THOSE ENDOWED WITH THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR ADAPTATION; THE ABILITY TO ACCEPT THE INEVITABLE AND CONFORM TO THE UNAVOIDABLE; TO HARMONIZE WITH EXISTING OR CHANGING CONDITIONS."
YOU CAN TRANSLATE THAT QUOTE TWO DIFFERENT WAYS: EITHER YOU KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN AND YOU ACCEPT YOUR OBSEQUIOUS FATE--
--OR YOU USE YOUR BRAIN AND CHALLENGE IT.
THE WORLD IS WEAK-WILLED AND HAS DONE THE FORMER.
THEY DON'T WANT TO ROCK THE SYNDICATE'S BOAT.
SO IT'S UP TO ME TO SINK IT.
THIS WORLD IS OURS.
THIS WORLD IS OURS.
THIS WORLD IS OURS.

DC COMICS PROUDLY PRESENTS

FOREVER EVIL

ISSUE TWO: RATS

GEOFF JOHNS WRITER DAVID FINCH PENCILLER RICHARD FRIEND INKER SONIA OBACK COLORIST CARLOS M. MANGUAL LETTERER

DAVID FINCH, RICHARD FRIEND AND SONIA OBACK COVER ETHAN VAN SCIVER AND HI-FI VARIANT COVERS

KATE STEWART ASSISTANT EDITOR BRIAN CUNNINGHAM SENIOR EDITOR

KREE
MR. LUTHOR? IS THAT YOU?
WHO'S THERE?
MY NAME'S OTIS, SIR.
I'M ONE OF YOUR SECURITY GUARDS.
THE LIGHTS AREN'T WORKING, NO A/C EITHER... THERE'S NO POWER TO ANYTHING...
...EXCEPT THESE SCREENS.
THIS WORLD IS OURS.

SAN FRANCISCO.
IT'S EVEN ON MY PHONE.
THIS WORLD IS OURS.
WHOEVER THEY ARE, THEY COULDN'T HAVE *REALLY* KILLED THE JUSTICE LEAGUE.
THEN WHERE *ARE* THEY?
EVERYONE GET SUITED UP. WE'RE GOING.
GOING *WHERE*, ROBIN?
TO THE JUSTICE LEAGUE'S WATCHTOWER. TO GET *NIGHTWING*.
I DON'T WANT TO BE *NEGATIVE* HERE, BUT IF THEY *KILLED* THE JUSTICE LEAGUE, WHY WOULD THEY LEAVE NIGHTWING *ALIVE*?
WHY WOULD THEY REVEAL HIS *IDENTITY* IF THEY WERE JUST GOING TO *KILL* HIM?
IF THERE ARE ANY OTHER HEROES OUT THERE THAT CAN STILL *FIGHT*, THEY'LL BE HEADING TO THE WATCHTOWER TO CONFRONT THIS CRIME SYNDICATE.
THEY ARE AN *EVIL* JUSTICE LEAGUE, ROBIN. LITERALLY.
WHAT'S THAT MEAN, RAVEN?
WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?
WHO *CARES*? IF THE *JUSTICE LEAGUE* LOST TO THESE GUYS, WHAT CAN THE *TEEN TITANS* POSSIBLY *DO*?
WE CAN *FIGHT* UNTIL OUR *DYING BREATH*.
YOU SOUND LIKE *BATMAN*.
AND YOU NEED TO START *ACTING* LIKE *SUPERMAN* INSTEAD OF *SUPERBOY*.
THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE YOU AREN'T SAYING.
BECAUSE IN THE GRAND SCHEME, IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER, WONDER GIRL.
BUT IF THE WORLD KNOWS THAT *RICHARD GRAYSON* IS *NIGHTWING*...

"...IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME UNTIL SOMEONE FIGURES OUT THE REST OF US."

GOTHAM.

ISN'T IT A LOVELY TIME OF YEAR?

THE BATS ARE GONE AND THE CROWS ARE HERE!

THE ABRUPT SHIFT IN GRAVITY RESULTING FROM THE ECLIPSE HAS CAUSED TIDAL WAVES, TRIGGERED EARTHQUAKES AND SENT THE WORLD INTO A PANIC.

WITHOUT POWER AND COMMUNICATIONS, THE MILITARY AND LAW AGENCIES ARE SPLIT BETWEEN REACTING TO THESE DISASTER ZONES AND CONFRONTING OUR ARMY OF SUPER-VILLAINS.

CENTRAL CITY.

HOW THE HELL DID THEY MOVE THE MOON?

THEY WANT THE WHOLE CITY LEVELED, COLD. EVERYTHING.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

WE TAKE THE WHITE HOUSE...AND EVERYONE IN IT.

"WE NEED TO KEEP THE MILITARY AND LAW AGENCIES INTACT TO PUT OUR OWN PEOPLE IN CHARGE."

"WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, OWLMAN? WE WASTE EVERYONE. PURE, SIMPLE AND EXHILARATING."

HAPPY HARBOR, RHODE ISLAND.

THE REMAINS OF THE JUSTICE LEAGUE WATCHTOWER.

"IF WE'RE GOING TO CONTROL THIS WORLD, JOHNNY, WE NEED AN INFRASTRUCTURE TO WORK WITH."

THAT'S HOW IT WORKED IN GOTHAM.
GOTHAM? NEWSFLASH, OWLMAN! THIS ISN'T GOTHAM. IT'S A BRAND NEW EARTH AND WE ALREADY CONTROL IT.
LOOK AT ALL THOSE BLACK SPOTS ON GRID'S MAP!
AND ALFRED'S SECRET SOCIETY IS RIPPING RIGHT THROUGH ANYONE DUMB ENOUGH TO PUT UP A FIGHT.
S-SO WE CAN STAY RIGHT HERE, THEN? WE DON'T HAVE TO GO OUTSIDE?
YOU WANT TO HIDE, POWER RING? WHAT ARE YOU STILL WORRIED ABOUT?
WE GOT THIS IN THE BAG, MAN. ALL OF THEM SUPER-VILLAIN SHEEPLE ARE DOING THE BORING WORK.
SO LET'S GO PLAY ALREADY.
WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO PLAY, JOHNNY.
HEY, I ALWAYS GOT TIME TO PLAY, ULTRAMAN.
IT'S TRUE. HE DOES.
SO UNCLENCH THAT INDESTRUCTIBLE ANUS AND GET THAT COAL-TURNED-DIAMOND OUT OF YOUR ASS! WE'RE FINALLY ON A WORLD WE CAN HAVE SOME FUN WITH AGAIN.
JOHNNY, WE STILL HAVE TO BE READY FOR--
ENOUGH PLANNING AND WORRYING, ULTRAMAN. ENOUGH! I'M NOT GOING TO HIDE AND PANIC LIKE POWER BLING OVER THERE.
ATOMICA AND JOHNNY QUICK ARE OUT!
SHOULD WE GO AFTER THEM?
NO, SUPERWOMAN. UNLIKE US, THOSE TWO HAVE BEEN APART FOR TOO LONG.
LET THEM GET IT OUT OF THEIR SYSTEM.

IT'S S-STARTING TO HURT AGAIN, DEATHSTORM. THE RING'S DOING S-SOMETHING. I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD!
POWER LEVELS 78%.
CAN YOU GET IT OFF NOW THAT WE'RE HERE, PROFESSOR? PLEASE?!
AH.
HM.
LET'S GIVE IT ONE MORE WEEK.
SINCE I HAVE FREED MYSELF OF THE WEAK FLESH ONCE CALLED VICTOR STONE, I AM BEGINNING TO BELIEVE I WILL SOON FEEL SOMETHING.
WHAT YOU HUMANS REFER TO AS SATISFACTION.
I'VE NEVER FELT THAT, GRID.
ARE YOU TRACKING JOHNNY AND ATOMICA?
YES. THEIR RANDOM ACTS OF VIOLENCE AND DESTRUCTION WILL LIKELY KEEP ANY RESISTANCE IN THE AREA OCCUPIED.
BUT TO MAINTAIN MOMENTUM AND ORDER, I AM CATALOGUING AND PRIORITIZING THE UPRISINGS TO ELIMINATE, PER YOUR REQUEST.
THE ONE FIRST REQUIRING YOUR ATTENTION IS IN KAHNDAQ.
AND HOW IS OUR HITCHHIKER DOING, ALFRED?

HE'S STILL QUITE DRUGGED UP, ULTRAMAN.
HA.
MEANING HE'S BEEN QUIET FOR THE MOST PART.
WE SHOULD KILL HIM WHILE WE HAVE THE CHANCE.
WE MIGHT NEED HIM, OWLMAN.
TO DO WHAT? TEAR OUR TEAM APART AGAIN?
TO THROW AT THAT THING THAT CAME TO OUR EARTH. THE THING WE BARELY ESCAPED FROM. IT'S COMING.
IT'S NOT COMING. IT COULDN'T POSSIBLY FOLLOW US HERE.
I THOUGHT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO BE PREPARED?
IT DID THINGS WE'D NEVER SEEN BEFORE, THOMAS.
BUT THIS MAN SHOULD STILL DIE FOR WHAT HE DID TO US!
NOW LET'S BE DONE WITH THIS.
I AGREE WITH OWLMAN.
HE LIVES, SUPERWOMAN. AND IF ANYONE TOUCHES HIM, THEY ANSWER TO ME.
THEN GRAYSON STAYS ALIVE TOO.
WHAT? THAT PATHETIC BEING IS A FACSIMILE, THOMAS.
THAT'S THE DEAL.
HE'S NOTHING.
AND YOU, SUPERWOMAN.
NEVER DISAGREE WITH ME IN FRONT OF HIM AGAIN.
ULTRAMAN?

WE HAVE A PROBLEM WITH A GROUP OF THIEVES CALLED THE ROGUES. THEY'RE REFUSING TO JOIN THE OTHERS IN CENTRAL CITY.
WHY?
I DO NOT KNOW.
POWER RING MAY REFUSE--
TELL DEATHSTORM AND POWER RING TO TAKE CARE OF IT.
TELL HIM TO GO OR I'LL RIP OUT HIS TONGUE.
"I'M HEADING TO KAHNDAQ."
WATCH HIM, ALFRED. CLOSELY.
OF COURSE. AND SIR?
ULTRAMAN WAS RIGHT. HE'S NOT THE RICHARD GRAYSON THAT WE KNEW.
HA!
ULTRAMAN CAN HEAR THE HEARTBEAT, OWLMAN. HE KNOWS.
AND IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE HE TAKES A CLOSER LOOK AND REALIZES IT'S NOT H.S.
BY THEN THE PROPER PREPARATIONS SHOULD BE IN PLACE. CLARK SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM FOR US ANYMORE.
I WANT THIS WORLD THOMAS.
FOR OUR CHILD.
"SUPERMAN'S GOING TO HELP US, RIGHT?"

SUPERMAN'S GO NG TO BE HERE ANY SECOND!
HE RESCUED MY COUS N WHEN BRAIN AC ATTACKED. HE SAVED MY LANDLADY DUR NG THE IMP INVAS ON. HE'S COM NG SUPERMAN ALWAYS--
WILL YOU PLEASE STOP TALKING.
I'M SORRY, MR. LUTHOR. I TALK WHEN I GET NERVOUS. DO YOU EVER GET NERVOUS? THAT'S A STUP D QUEST ON.
PLEASE.
NO.
SUBJECT B-0
SUBJECT: B-ZERO?
IT'S NOT READY.
WHAT IS IT?
FIVE YEARS.
DAMMIT, IT NEEDS ANOTHER FIVE YEARS.
SUBJEC
B-0

HOW MANY ARE THERE?
TEN FROM HAPPY HARBOR P.D. A DOZEN FROM PROVIDENCE, AND ANOTHER THIRTY OR SO FROM CASTLE HILL.
TURN OUT THE LIGHTS.
WE DON'T WANT THEM TO SEE US COM NG.
CHK-CHAK
KLAK-
KLIK-
CHAK
THEY NEVER SEE US COMING, DO THEY, BABE?
THEY BARELY SEE ME PERIOD.
POLICE
SKKKSHHH
I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND, BUT I BORROWED YOUR BULLETS.
YOU CAN HAVE THEM BACK NOW.

BULLETS? MELTED.
KWAAASH
LOOK. YOUR FAVORITE, BABE.
CHILDREN.
WHAT'S IN THERE, MR. LUTHOR?
WHEN I BEGAN THIS PROCESS I KNEW IT WOULD TAKE A DECADE TO PROPERLY CLONE A BEING FROM THE SINGLE CELL OF KRYPTONIAN BLOOD I COLLECTED.
BUT WITH THE POWER OUT, THE SOLAR PANELS ARE DARK. THE PROTEIN FLUIDS ARE ALREADY BREAKING DOWN. IT'LL DIE ANYWAY.
IT'S ONLY BEEN FIVE YEARS. BUT I HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE.
KLIK
FSSSSSSSS

OH, MY GOD.
CALM DOWN, OTIS.
RRR
IT'S A MONSTER.
CREATURE? CAN YOU UNDERSTAND ME?
I AM LEX LUTHOR.
I AM YOUR CREATOR AND PROGRAMMER AND YOU WILL LISTEN TO EVERY WORD AND CARRY OUT EVERY COMMAND I UTTER.
SO LET'S TEST THIS OUT, CREATURE.
KILL HIM.
WHAT?

RR
I SAID..KILL HIM.
RRR
KEEP THAT THING AWAY FROM ME.
RR
DAMMIT, LISTEN TO ME!
KILL THAT MAN RIGHT NOW!
SCREW YOU, LUTHOR!

RRAARRR!!
CHAK
KKT!
KRAAATCH
RAR!
YES.
YES, THAT'LL DO.
NOW COME.

"LET'S GET TO WORK."
FWOOOOSH
HE'S TEARING THROUGH THOSE TANKS. WE NEED TO SAVE THE PEOPLE INSIDE--!
GOD, YOU'RE ANNOYINGLY SWEET.
LIKE SUGAR-COATED SUGAR.
KISS
LET GO!
WHAT IS IT WITH YOU?
YOUR VIBRATIONAL FREQUENCY IS WAY OFF.
WHEN THE HELL ARE YOU FROM, KID? 'CAUSE IT AIN'T NOW.
HOW ABOUT WE PLAY A LITTLE TUG-OF-WAR BETWEEN CENTURIES, HUH?
ARRRHHHH!!
KRAZZATT

KRAKOOOMMMM
WICKED!
YOU MADE HIM SCREAM LIKE A GIRL.
KRAKOOOMM
DAMN! LOOK AT THAT! HA HA!
THE FUTURE TUGGED BACK.
BYE-BYE KIDDIES.
WHAT HAPPENED?
I TUGGED ON THE BRAT.

BOOOOMMMM
HUH. I GUESS THEY'RE DONE.
TIME TO FIND SOME MORE "GOOD GUYS."
THAT WAS SO HOT.
LET'S SEE HOW MUCH HOTTER I CAN GET YOU, BABE.

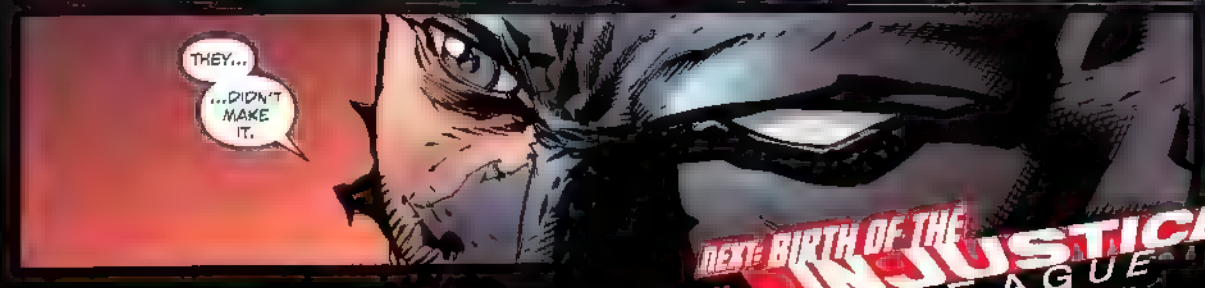
I BOUGHT THIRTY-EIGHT COMPANIES TO BUILD THIS.
I ONLY NEEDED TWO MORE TO COMPLETE ITS ARSENAL--ONE OF THEM BEING KORD INDUSTRIES.
KORD WAS DEVELOPING NON-LETHAL WEAPONRY, INCLUDING A "FLASH" GUN THAT WAS POTENTIALLY THE MOST POWERFUL MOBILE SOLAR ENGINE IN THE WORLD.
BUT FOR NOW I'LL HAVE TO MAKE DO WITHOUT IT.
CREATURE? YOU'RE PUTTING THAT ON INSIDE OUT.
NO MATTER. I CAN'T WASTE ANY MORE TIME. METROPOLIS IS IN RUIN.
THE JUSTICE LEAGUE IS DEAD.
SUPERMAN IS GONE.

THIS IS A JOB FOR LEX LUTHOR.
RRR

DETROIT.
S.T.A.R. LABS: THE MOST ADVANCED RESEARCH FACILITY IN THE WORLD
THIS WORLD IS OURS
WE SHOULDN'T STILL BE HERE, SILAS.
S.T.A.R. LABS DEFENSE SYSTEM IS OFF-LINE.
SECURITY'S GONE HOME TO PROTECT THEIR FAMILIES.
AND THE GENERATOR KEEPING THE EMERGENCY LIGHTS ON ISN'T GOING TO LAST MUCH LONGER. WE NEED TO GO WHILE WE STILL CAN! WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S HAPPENING OUT THERE.
WHICH IS EXACTLY WHY WE NEED TO PROTECT THE RED ROOM, THOMAS. IF THE JUSTICE LEAGUE IS REALLY DEAD... IF MY SON IS... WE OWE IT TO THEM TO DO OUR PART.
THE RED ROOM CONTAINS THE MOST DANGEROUS TECHNOLOGY ON EARTH.
AND IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME UNTIL SOMEONE WHO KNOWS THAT COMES KNOCKING ON OUR--
BAMM
CHA-VOMMMMMM
DAMN YOU FOR ALWAYS BEING RIGHT, SILAS.
BAAMMM
YOU'VE BEEN A GOOD FRIEND, THOMAS.
I'VE BEEN A TERRIBLE FRIEND.
THIS WORLD IS OURS
WELL, YOU'RE A GOOD ONE NOW.
BOOOM

YOUR SON NEEDS YOU, DR. STONE.

VICTOR?!
HE'S LOST A LOT OF, I DON'T KNOW... WD-40? IT WASN'T BLOOD.
YOU'RE ALIVE BATMAN? WHERE ARE THE REST OF THE JUSTICE LEAGUE?


THEY...
...DIDN'T MAKE IT.
NEXT: BIRTH OF THE INJUSTICE LEAGUE

FOREVER EVIL

FOLLOW FOREVER EVIL ALL MONTH LONG!

THIS WEEK

TRINITY OF SIN: PHANTOM STRANGER #12

Seemingly destroyed during "Trinity War," The Stranger has one chance to return to the land of the living, but the consequences will alter his path forever -- and send him on a quest to discover his true identity.

NEXT WEEK

FOREVER EVIL: ARKHAM WAR #1

Without Batman to protect Gotham City, the criminals go to war over who will rule it: Bane and the escaped inmates of Blackgate Prison or Scarecrow and the psychopaths of Arkham Asylum!

JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA #8

Martian Manhunter's consciousness awakens...but where? Lost in the nightmares of the Justice League, J'onn J'onnz will soon come to a horrifying realization about his fate -- and theirs!

SUICIDE SQUAD #24

For years, Amanda Waller has manipulated, used and imprisoned the deadly villains of Belle Reve Penitentiary, but now the tables are turned. Trapped and hunted in Belle Reve, now it's Waller who is fighting to stay alive! Who will come to her rescue? You'll be surprsied.

IN TWO WEEKS

FOREVER EVIL: ROGUES REBELLION #1

The Rogues are ordered by the Syndicate to level Central City. But when they refuse, a new team of villains come in to do the job... and kill the Rogues.

JUSTICE LEAGUE #24

Who is Ultraman and what is his true mission on Earth? Find out the darkest secrets of the Crime Syndicate's leader as he ventures out across Earth to test this world's strength for his own selfish needs.

TRINITY OF SIN: PANDORA #4

Everything Pandora knew about Pandora's Box and her curse was wrong! Warped to Earth-3, Pandora gets a glimpse of our future to be... and sets her sights on The Outsider for answers!

IN THREE WEEKS

FOREVER EVIL: A.R.G.U.S. #1

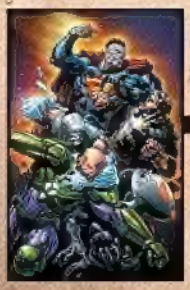
Its headquarters now rubble, A.R.G.U.S. only has one hope -- the man who founded it -- Colonel Steve Trevor! But where is he? How will he fare against Deathstroke and the Hunting Party? And what vile villain's return will threaten those closest to him?

JUSTICE LEAGUE DARK #24

John Constantine awakens to find the world burning. But is that such a bad thing anymore? Is this world really worth saving? And who will form the all-new Justice League Dark?

TEEN TITANS #24

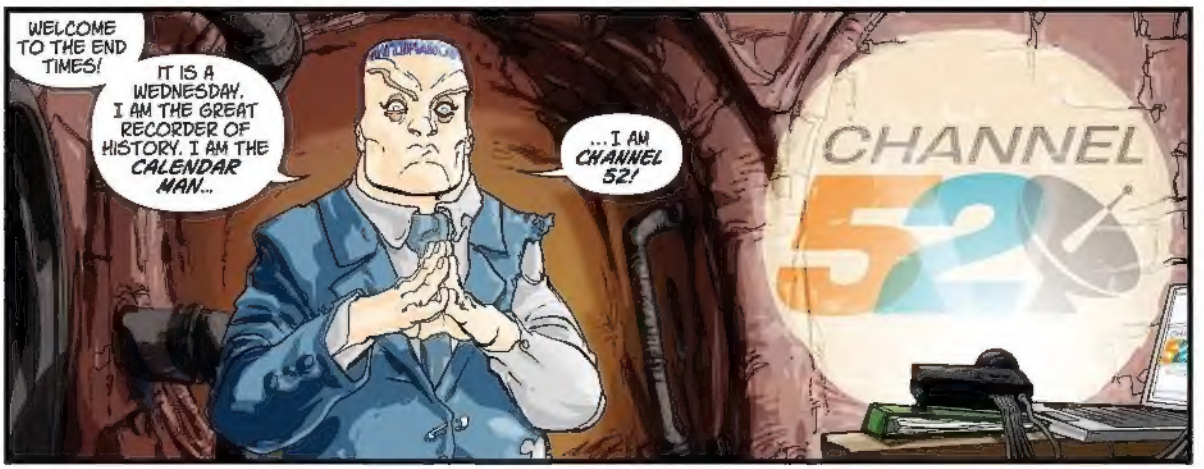
Lost in time, the Titans set out on a mission to not only return to the present, but save Kid Flash from his future!



AND NEXT MONTH

FOREVER EVIL #3

Lex Luthor makes his ultimate plan against the Crime Syndicate!
The fate of the Justice League is revealed!
The Rogues make a stand against the Syndicate!


WELCOME TO THE END TIMES!
IT IS A WEDNESDAY. I AM THE GREAT RECORDER OF HISTORY. I AM THE CALENDAR MAN...
...I AM CHANNEL 52!
CHANNEL 52

FOREVER EVIL! WITH THAT PRONOUNCEMENT THE CRIME SYNDICATE HAD ARRIVED ON OUR WORLD.
THEY HAVE SEEMINGLY DEPOSED THE WORLD'S HERO POPULATION AND COMMAND AN ARMY OF KILLERS, PSYCHOPATHS AND DEVIANTS KNOWN AS THE SECRET SOCIETY.
AETERNUS MALUM

BUT WHO IS THIS BAND OF JUSTICE LEAGUE DOPPELGANGERS?
WHERE DO THEY COME FROM?
WHILE WE KNOW SO LITTLE ABOUT THEM, THEY KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT US!

TAKE THEIR ABUSE OF THE VIGILANTE KNOWN ONLY AS NIGHTWING!
WELL, HE WAS ONLY NIGHTWING UNTIL THE SYNDICATE BROKE HIM DOWN AND ANNOUNCED HIS IDENTITY TO BE ONE RICHARD GRAYSON!

THE SYNDICATE HAD SUCCEEDED IN MOMENTS WHERE OTHERS HAD TRIED, AND FAILED, FOR YEARS.
FURTHERMORE, THEY PROMISED THEIR FOLLOWERS THAT THEY WOULD HUNT DOWN AND KILL EVERY FAMILY MEMBER AND ASSOCIATE OF RICHARD "NIGHTWING" GRAYSON.
I FIND NO REASON TO DOUBT THEIR ABILITY OR WILL TO DO SO.
MEANWHILE, THE INMATES CONTINUE TO LITERALLY RUN THE ASYLUM AS THE POWER VACUUM THE SYNDICATE CREATED HAS RESULTED IN ALL-OUT WAR!
THE EVER RESOURCEFUL BANE IS MAKING PARTICULAR HEADWAY IN GOTHAM CITY.
THERE IS ENOUGH GORE ON THE STREETS TO MAKE ONE MISS THE DAYS WHEN THE BAT OWNED THE CITY.
BY NOW IT IS CLEAR THAT THIS NEW EVIL WILL INDEED GO ON FOREVER.
I WILL BE HERE... EVERY DAY... EVERY MONTH... UNTIL THE END.
I AM THE CALENDAR MAN AND I AM CHANNEL 52.
CHANNEL 52

SON OF ULTRON